



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

June 27, 2005

# News Release

## **AMHERST RESIDENT CONVICTED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

BOSTON—An Amherst resident pleaded guilty late Friday, June 24, 2005, in federal court to possessing child pornography.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Robin M. Avers, special agent-in-charge of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in New England; and Colonel Thomas G. Robbins, superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police, announced that Robert F. Solokowski, age 31, of 10 Belchertown Road, Amherst, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Michael A. Ponsor to an Indictment charging him with possessing child pornography.

At Friday's plea hearing, the prosecutor told the Court that, had the case proceeded to trial, the evidence would have proven that between Jan. 1, 2004 and June 3, 2004, Solokowski, possessed child pornography that had been transported through interstate commerce, including computer.

Solokowski was arrested on the charges in October of last year and following a court appearance was released on his own recognizance. Judge Ponsor scheduled sentencing for Sept. 16, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. Solokowski faces a 5-year minimum mandatory term of imprisonment up to a maximum term of 20 years, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

The case was investigated by ICE, the Massachusetts State Police unit assigned to the Northwest District Attorney's Office and the Amherst Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ariane D. Vuono in Sullivan's Springfield office.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*